(b) the number of estimates of inter-State roads that are pending with Government for technical approval and financial sanction and the time since when they are pending; and

(c) the number of proposals and estimates which have been cleared by Government and when such clearance was accorded and which proposals/estimates are proposed to be cleared in the Budget 2008?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Government of Rajasthan had forwarded six porposals under the inter-State Connectivity Scheme for the development of State Roads during the year 2007-08. Out of these, three proposals amounting to Rs. 9.95 crore have been sanctioned, one proposal amounting to Rs. 2.67 crore was returned due to certain deficiencies and two proposals amounting to Rs. 7.01crore have been received recently.

(c) The details of estimates, for the works under the scheme of inter- State Connectivity sanctioned by the Government for the State of Rajasthan is since the year 2002-2003 are given below. The number of estimates to be sanctioned during the year 2008-2009 would depend upon the availability of fund, number of estimates forwarded by the State Governments and their *inter-se* priority and therefore it is premature at this stage to give any detail in this regard.

Year	No.	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2002-03	1	1.24
2004-05	2	3.18
2005-06	6	14.40
2006-07	5	12.49
2007-08	3	9.95
TOTAL:	17	41.26

Employees working in shipyards

*51. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of permanent employees working in shipyards under the administrative control of his Ministry as on 31st March, 2007, unit-wise; and

(b) the number of contract/casual/contingency workers working in these units as on the 31st March, 2007?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There are three Shipyards under the administrative control of Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, Department of Shipping, *viz.*, Cochin Shipyard

Limited, Kochi; Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam; Hoogly Dock and Port Engineers, Limited, Kolkata. The number of permanent employees working in these shipyards as on 31st March, 2007 is as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Shipyard	Permanent employees as on 31.3.2007
1.	Hindustan Shipyard Limited	2816
2.	Cochin Shipyard Limited	2084
3.	Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited	671

(b) The number of contract/casual/contingency workers working in these units as on the 31st March, 2007 is as follows:

Name of Shipyard	Contract workers	Casual workers	contingency workers	Total
Hindustan Shipyard Limited	196	4	-	200
Cochin Shipyard Limited	100	-	-	100
Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited	4	24	-	28

Upgradation to National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

*52. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any proposal from the States to upgrade State roads into National Highways during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the State of Andhra Pradesh has sought upgradations of about 4,590 km. of State roads into National Highways;

(c) if so, the State road projects for which upgradations have been accepted alongwith financial allocations provided to execute the projects, proposal-wise; and

(d) the rationale for not upgrading the State roads of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) 148 proposals totaling about 30,000 km. have been received from various State Governments to upgrade National Highways during the last three years. These include 19 proposals received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for upgradation of 4833 km. of State roads into National Highways. No new National Highways have been declared in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years. At present priority of the Government is to remove the deficiencies in the existing National Highways network of about 66,754 kms. and to upgrade the same to the National Highways standards rather than expanding the network.